



Public Notice

US Army Corps
Of Engineers
Seattle District

Planning Branch
Post Office Box 3755
Seattle, Washington 98124-2255
Philip L. Hoffman, Environmental Coordinator
Telephone: (206) 764-6577

Public Notice Date: 15 April 2005
Expiration Date: 15 May 2005
Reference: PL-05-03
Name: Seattle District,
Corps of Engineers

30 Day Notice

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, plans to perform work related to the Fish Passage Facility, Howard Hanson Dam Additional Water Supply Project, King County, Washington. This work is subject to Section 404 of the Clean Waters Act and described below and shown on the enclosed drawing(s).

LOCATION: The proposed project is located within the Howard Hanson Dam Reservoir and City of Tacoma Watershed, Green River, upstream of the city of Auburn, King County, Washington. The project is located between river miles (RM) 66 and RM 85.

WORK:

The Corps is constructing 18 Mitigation projects for habitat lost due to additional habitat loss from inundation following a pool raise at HHD in 2006. Currently, the pool is stored to elevation 1141 each summer for fish/conservation discharge. The pool raise will bring the pool to elevation 1167, to store 20,000 acre-feet of water above current levels. An additional 4 Restoration projects will also be constructed at the same time to restore habitat lost due to O&M of the Dam. Construction will be completed during in-water work windows established by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and will occur in both 2005 and 2006.

Specific features to be constructed include loose woody debris additions, Engineered Log Jam placement, which also creates pool habitat in the mainstem and North Fork Green River; existing sub-impoundment alteration to prevent fish stranding and to create new sub impoundments following the implementation of the pool raise; pond construction and connection to existing surface water; Signani Slough coho spawning habitat construction; restoring historic channel alignment and flow at Lester, WA; and replanting/hydroseeding of all areas disturbed by construction. Specific descriptions of the work to be done in 2005 is summarized in Table 1. The establishment of 200- foot riparian buffer zones and plantings of native riparian vegetation will also be carried out during this time period. Additional wildlife mitigation projects are being constructed throughout the watershed.

Location and vicinity maps are attached to this Public Notice. A full set of plans has been submitted to the Washington Department of Ecology for review, and is available to any interested member of the public or agency or Tribe upon request through the Army Corps of Engineers Web site at <http://www.nws.usace.army.mil>.

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PURPOSE: The purpose for these projects is to 1) mitigate for aquatic and fish habitats which will be altered by the Additional Water Storage Project and 2) restore aquatic and fish habitats which have been degraded by the operations of Howard Hanson Dam and the Additional Water Supply Project. Specifically, the Corps is constructing 18 Mitigation projects for habitat lost due to additional habitat loss from inundation following a pool raise at HHD in 2006 and 6 similar restoration projects to address habitat alterations attributable to the operation and maintenance of the Howard Hanson Dam.

MITIGATION: No mitigation is required for this project as these projects are mitigation and restoration of aquatic habitat for Howard Hanson Dam construction, operation, and the increase in pool elevation for the Additional Water Supply Project. All impact avoidance and minimization measures applicable to in-water work of this nature have been applied to design of the project and will be adhered to during construction.

COORDINATION: The proposed work is being coordinated with the following Federal, State, or local agencies:

Federal

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Marine Fisheries Service

Indian Tribes

Muckleshoot Tribe

State of Washington

Department of Ecology
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Local

King County Public Works
City of Tacoma

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES: The District Engineer has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. A field reconnaissance of the site did not identify any significant cultural or historic resources that would directly be affected by the proposed project. Unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric or historical data may be lost or destroyed by work to be accomplished under the requested work.

The District Engineer invites responses to this Public Notice from Federal, State and local agencies, historical and archeological societies, Indian tribes and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns with historic properties in the area.

ENDANGERED SPECIES - The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, requires assessment of potential impacts to listed and proposed species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) identified federally listed and proposed animal species which may occur in the project vicinity. Included in this list were four species listed as threatened, bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), marbled murrelets (*Brachyramphus marmoratus marmoratus*), northern spotted owls (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), and bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos*), gray wolf (*Canis lupis*) and Canada lynx (*Lynx Canadensis*). The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) identified one species listed as threatened, Puget Sound chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*), as occurring downstream of the project area. The Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has received Biological Opinions and concurrence from both Services for endangered species. The Services find that these mitigation and restoration projects are not likely to adversely effect species except bull trout, and included Reasonable and Prudent Measures to minimize effects to bull trout.

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The Corps will follow the Reasonable and Prudent Measures contained within the Biological Opinions.

PUBLIC HEARING - Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION - The decision whether to perform the proposed work will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or not proceed with the proposed work. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

ADDITIONAL EVALUATION - The State of Washington is reviewing this work for consistency with the approved Washington Coastal Zone Management Program.

This proposal is the subject of Shorelines Management Act and will be conducted in a manner consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the approved State Coastal Zone Management Program.

A final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision has already been prepared for the proposed work as part of the Howard Hanson Dam Additional Water Supply Project. Based on the assessment of potential impacts from the proposed work, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required.

COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD: Additional information concerning the project may be obtained at the above referenced address from Mr. Philip L. Hoffman, (206) 764-6577, or from Mr. Mike Padilla, (206) 764-6734. Comments on these factors will be accepted and made part of the record. Comments should refer to the reference number shown above and reach this office, Attn: Mr. Philip L. Hoffman, NWS-PM-PL-ER, no later than the expiration date of this public notice to insure consideration.

Additional drawings can be found at: <http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/redirectdoc.cfm?ID=4620>

Encl

Drawing () or Drawings (x)

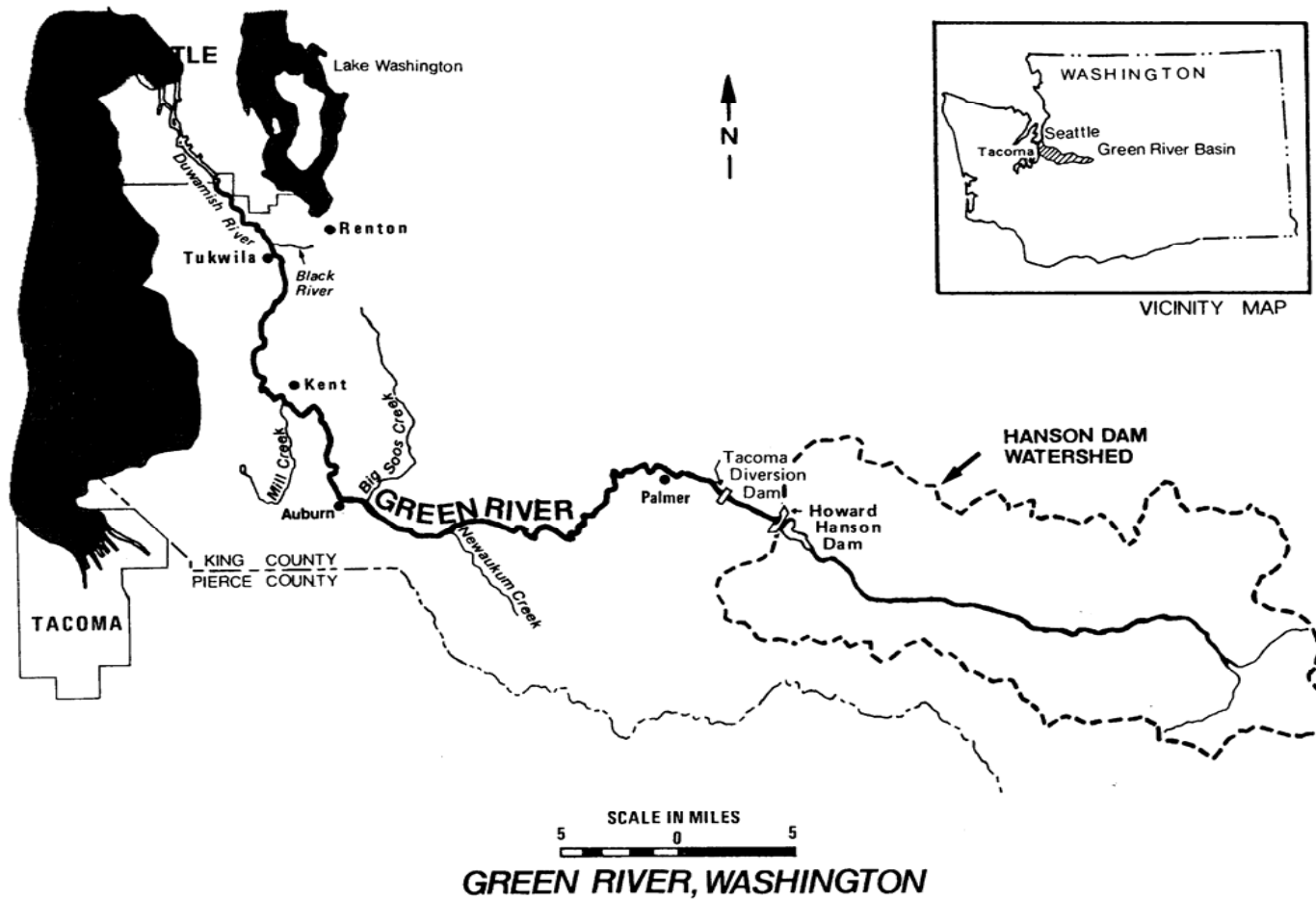


Figure 1. Location and Vicinity Map of the Howard Hanson Dam, Green River, King County, Washington.

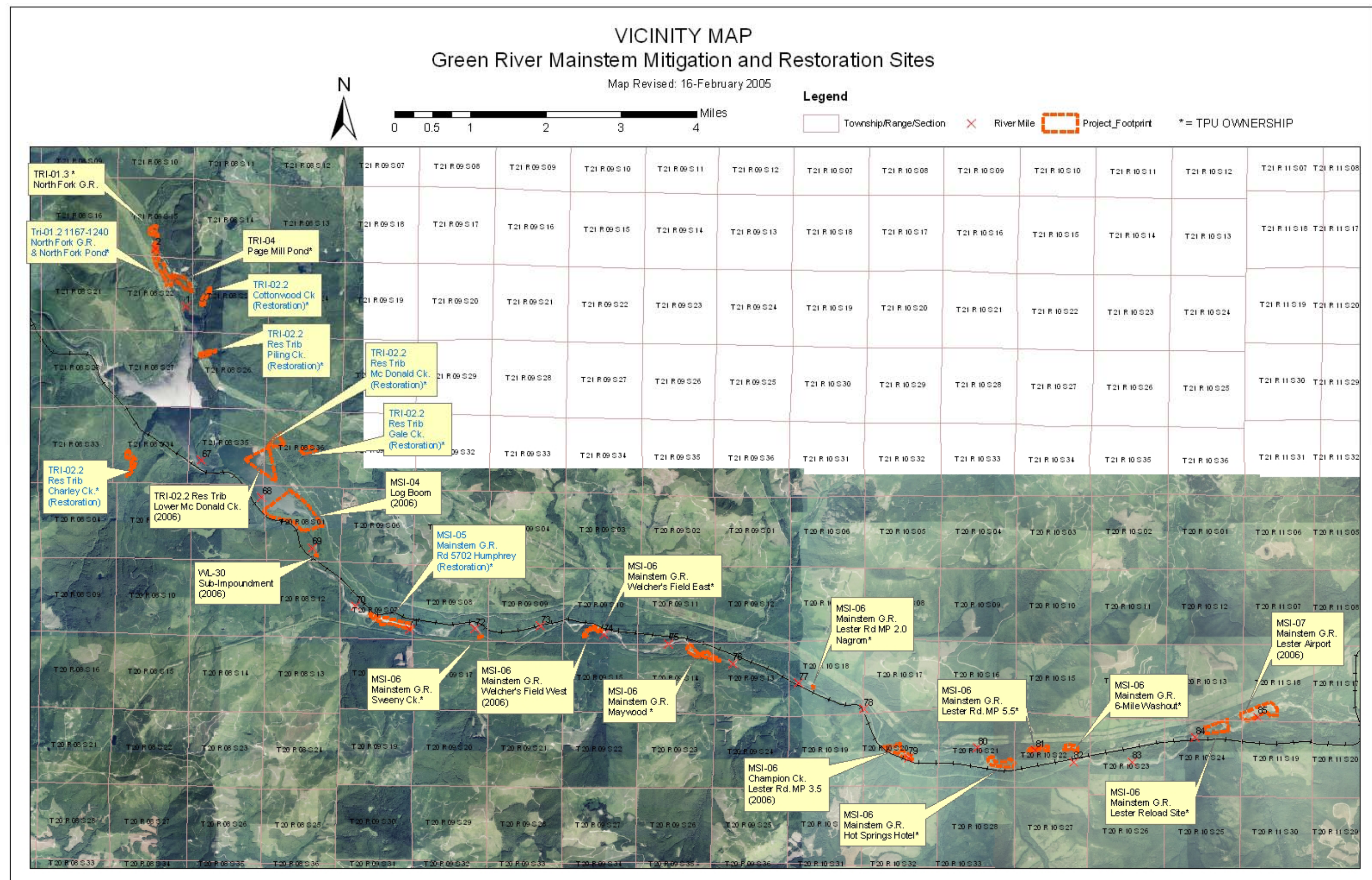


Figure 2. Vicinity Map of Howard Hanson Dam Additional Water Supply Project Mitigation and Restoration projects for 2005 and 2006 work.

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Table 1 Site specific construction information for Calendar 2005 work for the Howard Hanson Dam Additional Water Supply Project, Fish Habitat Mitigation and Restoration features; Howard Hanson Dam Watershed, King County, Washington. Work items with site number and name in *Italics* are loose wood placements which will be accomplished using helicopters in the late fall of 2005 (November 2005 – January 2006).

Site Number	Site Name	Plan Set	Plate #	Log Jams	Loose Wood	Piles	Excavation	Rock Placement
TRI-1.3	North Fork Green River	Mitigation	P-1	7	5 Pieces			
TRI- 0.4	North Fork Ponds	Restoration	P-1				10,000 CY	100 CY 18" minus/600CY 3" Minus (for pond bottom as needed)
MSI-06	Sweeny Creek	Mitigation	P-2		20			
MSI-06	Welcher's Field East	Mitigation	P-3	4	2	14	3000 CY	
MSI-06	Maywood	Mitigation	P-4	7	21	8	500 CY	Temporary road fill
MSI-06	Nagrom	Mitigation	P-5		20			
MSI-06	Hot Springs Hotel	Mitigation	P-7	5	5	12	600 CY	600Cy 18' Minus/150 CY 3" minus (temporary road fill)
MSI-06	Lester 5.5	Mitigation	P-8	4	20	12	500 CY	120 CY 18" minus (Temporary Road)
MSI-06	Six mile Wash-out	Mitigation	P-9	5	20	12	100 CY	120 CY 18" Minus (Jam ballast/ Temp. Road)
MSI-06	Lester Reload	Mitigation	P-10	7	24	18	100 CY	120CY 18" minus (Temp. Road).
<i>TRI-02.2</i>	<i>Charley Creek</i>	Restoration	P-7		30			
<i>TRI-02.2</i>	<i>Cottonwood Creek</i>	Restoration	P-3		15			

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<i>TRI-02.2</i>	<i>Piling Creek</i>	Restoratio n	P-4		10			
Site Number	Site Name	Plan Set	Plate #	Log Jams	Loose Wood	Pile s	Excavation	Rock Placement
<i>TRI-02.2</i>	<i>McDonald Creek</i>	Restoratio n	P-5		16			
<i>TRI02.2</i>	<i>Gale Creek</i>	Restoratio n	P-6		15			
<i>TRI-01.2</i>	<i>Lower North Fork Green River</i>	Restoratio n	P-2		22			

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
P.O. Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600
(360) 407-6000 • TDD Only (Hearing Impaired) (360) 407-6006

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Notice of Application for
Water Quality Certification
and for
Certification of Consistency with the
Washington Coastal Zone Management Program

Date: 15 April 2005

Notice is hereby given that a request has been filed with the Department of Ecology, pursuant to the requirements of Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL 95-217), to certify that the project described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. PL-05-03 will comply with the Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Act, and with applicable provisions of State and Federal water pollution control laws.

Notice is hereby given that a request has been filed with the Department of Ecology, pursuant to the requirements of Section 307© of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451), to certify that the above referenced project will comply with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to the project on either or both (1) compliance with water pollution control laws or (2) the project's compliance or consistency with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program may do so by providing written comments within 30 days of the above publication date to:

Federal Permit Coordinator
Department of Ecology
SEA Program
Post Office Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600